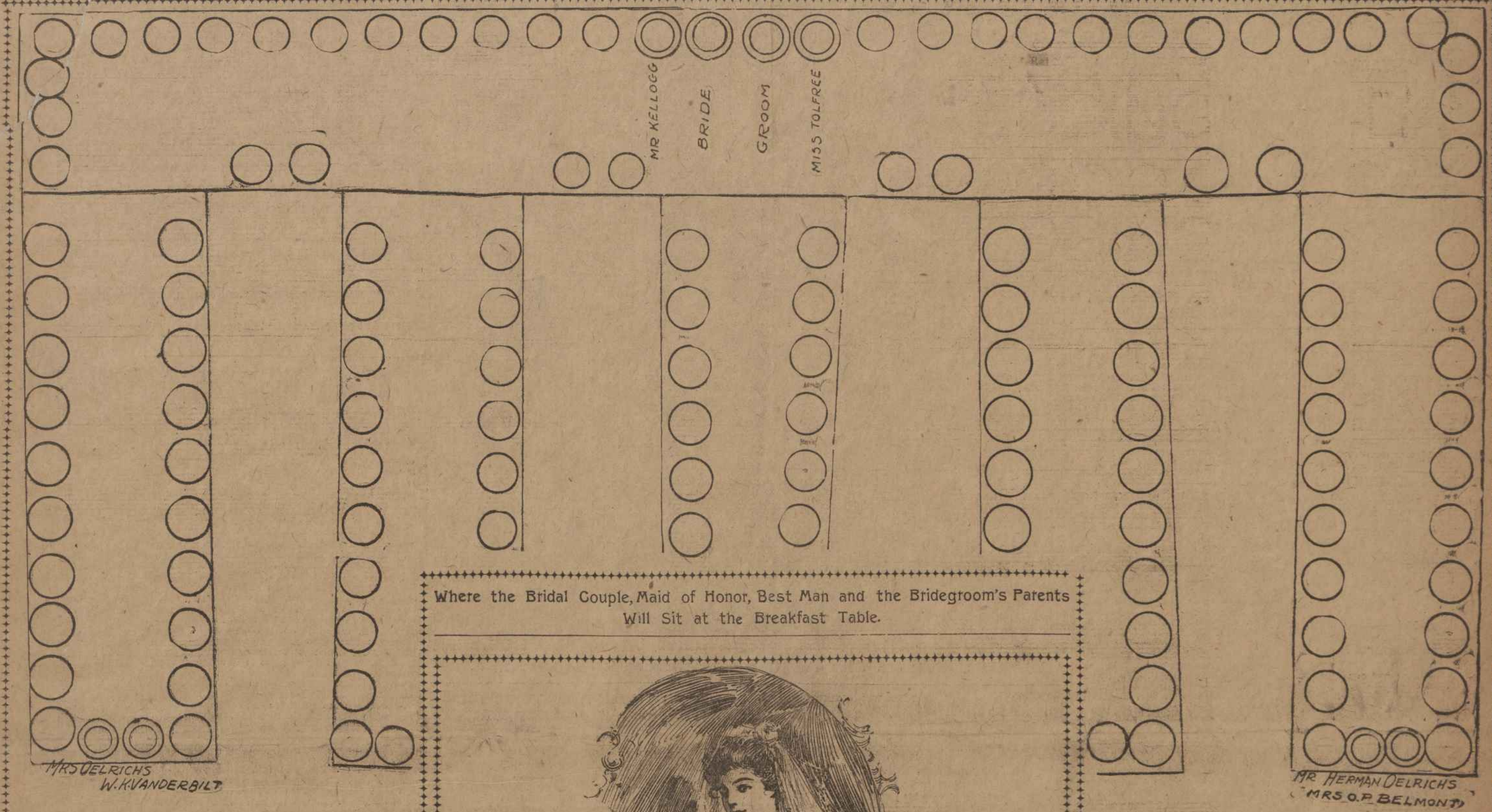


VANDERBILT AND MISS FAIR HAVE THEIR WEDDING TO-DAY.

Where the Bridal Couple, Maid of Honor, Best Man and the Bridegroom's Parents
Will Sit at the Breakfast Table.

The Tumult of Preparation Was Stilled for a Brief Time
Yesterday While To-day's Ceremony Was
Pictured in Rehearsal.

An Avenue of Rose Trees Blooms—The Guest Tables Are
Set—All That Unlimited Riches Can Provide Is
Ready for the Wedding Day.

It was a very private rehearsal of the Vanderbilt-Fair wedding that took place yesterday, and as reverent as such an event could be. It was no masquerade, no spectacle. Even the closest friends of the contracting couple were excluded, and only the best man and maid of honor shared the benefit of the coaching that the prospective bride and groom received from the Rev. Father Murphy.

This little preliminary was arranged in order that the solemnity of a ceremony sufficiently complex and imposing to disconcert the steadiest nerves might not be marred by any inadvertencies on the part of the principals. It took place at noon in the conservatory, at the end of the ballroom, where the actual event will take place in the presence of a fashionable throng at noon to-day. There was no costuming, no posturing. It was all as demure as a Sunday-school lesson.

William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., reached the Oelrichs house at 11 o'clock. He found it a polite tumult of decorators, florists, caterers and musicians. The excitement of it all had worn out Mrs. Oelrichs, and she was taking an unaccustomed rest, to conserve her strength for the morrow. Her sister, Miss Fair, however, showed no diminution of the vitality for which she is noted.

Miss Mary Baldwin Tolfree, who will be maid of honor to-day, was there, and Prentice Kellogg, who will be best man, arrived soon. So did Father Murphy, with the two little boys selected because of their Rhapsodic features, who will to-day figure as the priest's acolytes, dressed in the costly white robes ordered by Miss Fair.

When all these persons repaired to the conservatory the decorators retired from the ballroom, the organist took his place at the keyboard of the beautiful church organ, which occupies one corner, and Earl Paur led his thirty musicians of the Metropolitan Orchestra into the music gallery. Thereafter all that told the other occupants in the house what was happening were the strains of music that swelled from the great hall at intervals, only to break off suddenly when the purpose of giving or obtaining a "cue" had been accomplished.

It was all over in less than an hour. Young Mr. Vanderbilt took leave of his betrothed at 12:45, not to see her again until she walks up, on Hermann Oelrichs's arm, to the prie-dieu, which serves as an altar, having mounted the wide staircase and passed through the long avenue of roses, flanked by her wedding guests.

Prentice Kellogg left the house with his friend, and soon afterward Miss Fair, Miss

Tolfree and Mrs. Oelrichs had lunch in the library, having been banished by tyrannical artisans from every other part of the house.

It was a day sacred to preparation and rest. There were no callers, no social duties to observe. An essential part of the programme was to take the air, however. Miss Fair and Miss Tolfree went driving in the Park in the former's Victoria, and a little later Mrs. Oelrichs went out in her landau. During the afternoon all the costly presents, which the guests viewed on Sunday, were removed, under close guard, to Howard's jewelry store, in Fifth avenue, where they will remain locked up until the young couple are settled in their own establishment. Relieved from the weight of this responsibility the Oelrichs-Fair family dined early and quietly, and went to bed in time to store up ample energy for a fatiguing day.

PATRIOTIC MUSIC
IS MISS FAIR'S CHOICE.

No detail of the wedding of Miss Fair and Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., has received more careful attention than the music. Solely for the ceremony, a great pipe organ has been built into the house. It is set over the balcony in the ball room.

The orchestra of thirty-nine pieces will be conducted by Naham Franko and Emil Paur. Mr. Paur will direct the men during the time the guests are arriving. After the ceremony and while the wedding breakfast is served, Mr. Franko will lead the orchestra.

The musical selections, more particularly those to be rendered after the wedding ceremony, are patriotic in that they are largely of American composition. Miss Fair particularly wished that it be so.

The piece de resistance will be, of course, the Largo of Handel—in which Naham Franko will play the violin solo—for orchestra, harp, organ and violin. This together with A. Jensen's wedding music and the "Spring Song" of Mendelssohn.

The nuptial music from Lohengrin will usher in the bridal party. Immediately the ceremony shall have been performed, Mendelssohn's wedding march will be played. Then will follow these selections, under the leadership of Mr. Naham Franko:

Overture, Mignon. By Ambrose Thomas
Album Leaf. By Frederick Brandels
Bridal Procession, from "Lohengrin". By Wagner
Secret of Love. By B. O. Klein
Selections from "Romeo and Juliet". By Nerval
Waltz, "In Dreamland". By De Koven
March, "Bride Elect". By Sousa
"The Star Spangled Banner". By Sousa

The orchestra will be made up of the following instruments: Fourteen violins, 4 violas, 4 cellos, 4 basses, 2 flutes, 2 clarinets, 2 horns, 2 cornets, an oboe, trombone, bassoon and drums.

At the final rehearsal of the orchestra there were present only Mrs. Hermann Oelrichs, Miss Fair and Mr. Vanderbilt.



The Dress Which Miss Fair Will Wear to the Altar To-day.

The skirt and waist are of soft ivory satin which shimmers faintly through a maze of priceless Irish point lace. From the neck to the feet the gown falls in unstiffened folds, ending in a train five yards long. At the bottom of the skirt is a trimming of white silk roses set close together, forming a veritable fringe. The sleeves and high collar are of the same rare Irish lace, and over all hangs a veil of tulle, caught with roses.

At Noon, to the Deep Pealing of the Organ and the
Twanging of Harps, the Bridal Procession Will
Move to the Flower-Canopied Altar.

Then the Wedding Breakfast, Oddly Lacking in Van-
derbilts, in the Oelrichs Dining-Room—W. K. Van-
derbilt and Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont to Meet.

By Cholly Knickerbocker.

To-day comes the wedding which interests two young persons in particular and the great, free and haughty American nation in general.

All boys and girls are equal, all greetings in this free land are of the same importance, but somehow there seems to be an exception in the public mind regarding this boy and girl and this wedding.

So here are some facts on which to feed your anxious mind.

The facts are holed down, so that if asked, "What's the news?" you may be able to tell it all quickly.

"Just a Plain Love Match."

At 12 o'clock sharp the wedding. Father Murphy officiating. Father Murphy says it is a love match, and it is. Father Murphy will give good advice and not forget to tell Miss Fair that her first duty is to bring young William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., into the fold of the church. It will probably be some time before Miss Fair thinks of that.

The ceremony will be very solemn, according to Catholic Church custom.

Most Heavenly Harmony.

A huge organ has been installed in Mrs. Oelrichs's house especially for the occasion. It was hard work getting it in, but it is all right at last. A very fine organist will grind solemn music out of the big pipes, pushing and pedalling industriously.

Also a full orchestra of twenty musicians will play their less sacred instruments. These twenty musicians are the pick of the Metropolitan Opera House orchestra. There will be harpists also. The sweet twanging of the harp is meant to remind the bride and groom and all present that they must keep in mind the day—soon to come—when all the frivolities of this world will give way to eternal harp playing—or a much worse fate.

No Vocal Music—Only Love Birds.

There will be no vocal music—no singing at all, except the imaginary love bird cooing to his mate in a bower of roses at \$18 a dozen.

The wedding ceremony will last about half an hour. It will be very fine and impressive. Father Murphy is an extremely handsome young man with a face of great intelligence. He will stand in the conservatory, which opens out of the ballroom on the first floor, Fifty-seventh street side, as they say in Philadelphia. That conservatory, which ordinarily has a small fountain splashing and a lot of green things, will be all flowers—very pretty indeed. It is at

the east end of the ballroom—in case you want to imagine yourself there. The guests invited to look on will occupy the ball room proper.

After the Ceremony—Food.

When the solemn ceremony is over everybody will walk down the winding stairway to the ground floor. There, in the big dining-room—also Fifty-seventh street side—food will be ready.

Everybody will shake hands with the bridegroom, and many young girls and pleasant-faced mothers will kiss the bride. She will handle her big white tulle veil very nicely. Everybody will say, "Wasn't she beautiful—her pallor—so becoming; and what a manly young chap he is, he looks twenty-five."

Miss Fair, who has very snappy black eyes and nothing lackadaisical in her make-up, will be not at all sentimental, but just the reverse, and her young husband will be very matter-of-fact and self-possessed.

He is going to make a speech—but we have not got to that yet.

In the big dining-room the guests will find six long tables.

The principal stretches across the east end of the big room, running from north to south. It will be in front of the big high fireplace. There will be no fire, because the bride and bridegroom, the ushers, etc., will sit at the long table with their backs to the fireplace.

The Cheerful Head Table.

In the centre will sit the blissful young man, with Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., so recently Miss Fair, sitting at his right. The maid of honor, Miss Tolfree, will sit at his left. At the bride's right will sit the best man, Mr. Prentice Kellogg. He is a very blond youth, with a sharp, intelligent face, a very young man, indeed, and a very nice boy. Those four gay young people will be the centre of the whole party and have a very fine time. They will feel very important, quite naturally, and eat a great deal, as normal young people should do.

Many things to drink will be offered, but very little will be drunk. It is not fashionable to drink very much nowadays. Young people especially having noticed the havoc of drink among their elders in good society are inclined to be very temperate.

So much for the top table which will hold the big cake and bride and bridegroom.

The other five tables will run the length of the room, each with guests on either side. At the main table, guests will sit on one side only, with their backs to the wall